



**Linda S. Adams**  
*Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection*

# California Environmental Protection Agency

Air Resources Board • Department of Pesticide Regulation • Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Integrated Waste Management Board • Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
State Water Resources Control Board • Regional Water Quality Control Boards



**Arnold Schwarzenegger**  
*Governor*

Certified Mail: 7003 1680 0000 6174 8883

September 28, 2006

Mr. Dennis Lampson, Environmental Health Specialist IV  
Mono County Environmental Health Department  
P.O. Box 476  
Bridgeport, California 93517

Dear Mr. Lampson:

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) conducted a program evaluation of Mono County Environmental Health Department's Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) on September 6, 2006. The evaluation was comprised of an in-office program review. The State evaluators completed a Certified Unified Program Agency Evaluation Summary of Findings with your agency's program management staff, which includes identified deficiencies, preliminary corrective actions, and timeframes. Two additional evaluation documents are the Program Observations and Recommendations and the Examples of Outstanding Program Implementation.

The enclosed Summary of Findings is now considered Final and based on review; I find that Mono County Environmental Health Department's CUPA program performance is satisfactory with some improvement needed. To complete the evaluation process, please provide deficiency status reports to Cal/EPA of your progress toward correcting the identified deficiencies every 90 days from the evaluation date. Submit your status reports to JoAnn Jaschke. The first status report is due on December 5, 2006.

Cal/EPA also noted during this evaluation that Mono County Environmental Health Department has aggressively worked to revitalize the Unified Program in Mono County by developing a comprehensive implementation plan and dedicating resources for quickly training their new inspector. The Unified Program is on a very positive track. We will be sharing these innovations with the larger CUPA community through the Cal/EPA Unified Program web site to help foster a sharing of such ideas statewide.

Mr. Dennis Lampson  
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Thank you for your continued commitment to the protection of public health and the environment through the implementation of your local Unified Program. If you have any questions or need further assistance, you may contact your evaluation team leader or Jim Bohon, Manager, Cal/EPA Unified Program at (916) 327-5097 or by email at [jbohon@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:jbohon@calepa.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Don Johnson  
Assistant Secretary  
California Environmental Protection Agency

Enclosure  
Cc: See next page

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cc: Ms. Carol Anacker-Hubbard, Environmental Health Specialist (Sent Via Email)  
Mono County Environmental Health Department  
P.O. Box 476  
Bridgeport, California 93517

JoAnn Jaschke  
California Environmental Protection Agency (Sent Via Email)  
1001 I Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
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Mr. Kevin Graves (Sent Via Email)  
State Water Resources Control Board  
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Mr. Charles McLaughlin (Sent Via Email)  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
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Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Mr. Mickey Pierce (Sent Via Email)  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
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Ms. Vickie Sakamoto (Sent Via Email)  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
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Sacramento, California 94244-2460

Mr. Moustafa Abou-Taleb (Sent Via Email)  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
P.O. Box 419047  
Rancho Cordova, California 95741-9047

## **Deficiencies and Corrective Actions**

1. Deficiency: Brief description of deficiency

CUPA Corrective Action: CUPA responds here

2. Deficiency: Brief description of deficiency

CUPA Corrective Action: CUPA responds here

3. Deficiency: Brief description of deficiency

CUPA Corrective Action: CUPA responds here

4. Deficiency: Brief description of deficiency

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11. Deficiency: Brief description of deficiency

CUPA Corrective Action: CUPA responds here



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## **CERTIFIED UNIFIED PROGRAM AGENCY EVALUATION SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**CUPA: Mono County Environmental Health**

**Evaluation Date: September 6, 2006**

### **EVALUATION TEAM**

**Cal/EPA: John Paine and JoAnn Jaschke**

This Summary of Findings includes the deficiencies identified during the evaluation, observations and recommendations for program improvement, and examples of outstanding program implementation activities. The evaluation findings are preliminary and subject to change upon review by state agency and CUPA management. Questions or comments can be directed to John Paine @ (916) 327-5092.

	<b><u>Deficiency</u></b>	<b><u>Preliminary Corrective Action</u></b>
<b>1</b>	The CUPA did not complete or submit the FY 04/05 Annual Summary Reports.  CCR Title 27, Section 15280	The CUPA will complete and submit the FY 05/06 Annual Summary Reports to Cal/EPA by September 30, 2006.
<b>2</b>	The CUPA did not complete their FY 04/05 annual Self-Audit Report.  CCR Title 27, Section 15290	The CUPA will complete and submit the FY 05/06 Self-Audit Report to Cal/EPA by October 31, 2006.
<b>3</b>	The CUPA is not fully regulating all the agricultural handlers in the County. Although a few of the handlers have been captured and regulated, many are not being regulated.  HSC Chapter 6.11, Section 25404	The CUPA, in coordination with the County Agricultural Commissioner, will identify those agricultural handlers that may be subject to the program. Once identified, these handlers will be incorporated, to some extent, into the Unified Program in Mono County.

**CUPA Representative**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

**Evaluation Team Leader**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)  
Evaluation Summary of Findings

**PROGRAM OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. Observation:** In 2003 the sole CUPA inspector accepted a position in another jurisdiction. Due to the State (DHS) hiring freeze and other obstacles, the CUPA's ability to fill the vacant position was severely hampered. Finally, in April 2006, the position was filled and since this time, the inspector has focused on training for all program elements and revamping the UST Program. In May of 2006, the SWRCB spent 3 days training the new inspector and other County staff. In addition, State OES staff also came to Mono County and provided training for the Business Plan and CalARP Programs. The CUPA and state OES staff conducted a joint CalARP Program inspection at a waste water treatment facility. In November, the new inspector will be attending the Cal/EPA Basic Inspection Academy. In addition, since joining the CUPA in April, the inspector passed the ICC UST inspector certification test. Later this fall, DTSC will be providing the new inspector with Hazardous Waste Program training.

Upon joining the CUPA, the new inspector, in coordination with the CUPA Manager developed a comprehensive strategy for revitalizing the Unified Program in Mono County. The following is a brief summary of the CUPA's activities since April 2006:

UST Program: The new inspector has reviewed all UST permits and verified whether or not they are current, issuing permits for those not current. The new inspector has conducted compliance inspections at 15 of the 25 UST facilities and has overseen the closure of 3 tanks at the Caltrans facilities. The CUPA inspector plans to conduct inspections at the remaining 13 facilities by the end of October – before the winter weather arrives.

Business Plan: Later this fall, the CUPA inspector will be going through each regulated facility file to assess the compliance status of each facility. For those with outdated inventory statements and emergency procedures, notices will be distributed that request submission of either an inventory statement or annual certification of no change to the inventory, which will be submitted by March 1, 2007. In addition, all UST facilities have also updated their HMBP. The CUPA manager has also reviewed HMBP for approximately 25 businesses since January 2006. The files will also be reviewed to determine the last inspection date and conduct any follow-up actions that are necessary. The new inspector has conducted approximately 25 inspections for the Business Plan Program.

Enforcement Actions: The District Attorney is very supportive of the CUPA program and is prepared to initiate any action referred by the CUPA. The DA and the CUPA are currently working on an enforcement case. Up until this case, the CUPA has only initiated informal enforcement actions that resulted in return to compliance. Another enforcement action is being pursued against a state agency for refusing to pay CUPA fees. The total amount owed to the CUPA exceeds \$13,000.

Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)  
Evaluation Summary of Findings

HWG: The CUPA currently has 38 hazardous waste generators, which consists of primarily small quantity. Once the new inspector is provided adequate training, compliance inspections for the HWG program will be conducted.

AST: The CUPA currently has 50 AST facilities, with a total of 54 tanks. However, some of these tanks are less than 1320 gallons and will not be subject to the AST program. The CUPA inspector has visited approximately 12 AST facilities since April 2006. For those with no SPCC plan the inspector provided the owner/operator information regarding AST and SPCC plan requirements in addition to referring to Regional Board.

Single Fee and Public Participation: CUPA fees were increased significantly in 2005, for example HWG and CalARP fees increased from \$60 to \$300. All public health program elements are now approximately 56% fee supported with the CUPA Program slightly higher. The fees are reviewed annually and adjusted as necessary and authorized by local ordinance. Survey cards are mailed to the public announcing the Board of Supervisors review and intent to increase fees.

**EXAMPLES OF OUTSTANDING PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

1. The CUPA Manager maintained the CUPA Program vision while aggressively pursuing an inspector to fill the position that remained vacant for 3 years. Once the position was filled, the manager actively revitalized the Unified Program in Mono County through the implementation of a comprehensive plan to provide adequate training and direction to the new inspector. Since joining the CUPA, the new inspector's efforts and accomplishments have independently rejuvenated the Mono County Unified Program. During the past 5 months, the new inspector has attended over eighty hours of training, while conducting inspections, assisting the public and regulated community, as well as completing other administrative functions. Although the CUPA still has many of the remaining elements of the plan to complete, the Unified Program in Mono County is on a very positive track.